



IDIOMS

and how to use them correctly

What's an idiom?

- a word or phrase used in colloquial, conversational language
- the meaning of the individual words do not usually match the actual meaning of the phrase
- Example: It's raining cats and dogs outside!
- Meaning: It's raining a lot outside. Obviously, it's not literally raining cats and dogs.



How to use idioms

- idioms are used in conversational, informal English
- if you use them on the IETLS or TOEFL test, it's best to use them in the speaking section
- it's very important to use them **correctly**





I'M FEELING...

Idioms about how you feel

over the moon



Meaning: to be really happy about something

Examples:

I was over the moon when I found out I got an 8 on IELTS!

Jake loved his surprise birthday party. He was over the moon when he found out!

under the weather

Meaning: to feel sick

Examples:

I don't think I'm going to come to school today because I'm feeling a little under the weather.

Jenny is feeling a bit under the weather. She thinks she has the flu.



down in the dumps



Meaning: to feel sad about something

Examples:

Sarah's boyfriend just broke up with her, so she's been down in the dumps for a few days.

Are you doing OK? You look a little down in the dumps.



ANIMALS

idioms using animals

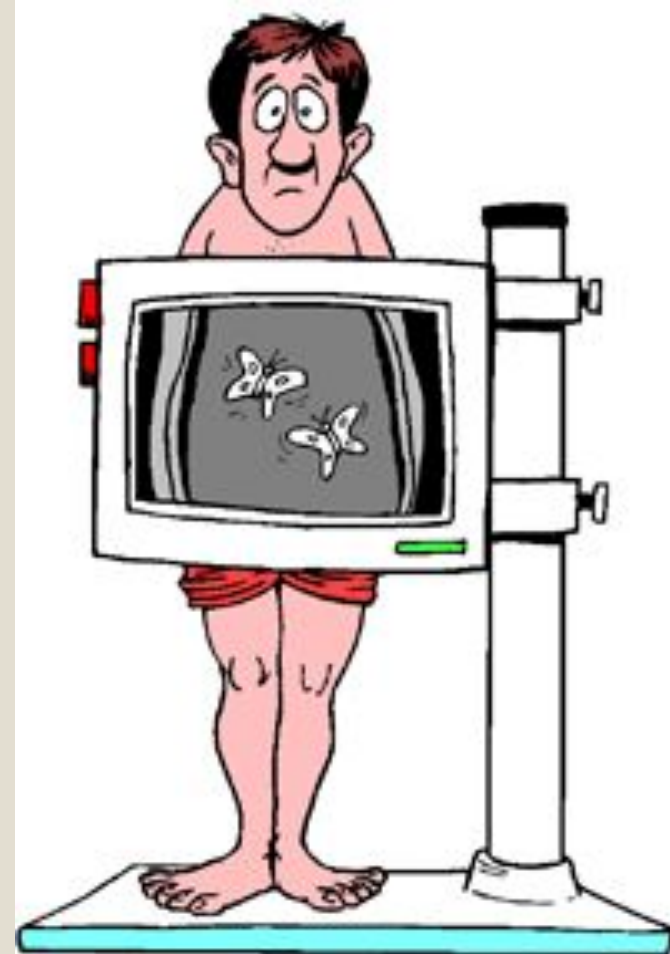
to have butterflies (in your stomach)

Meaning: to be nervous about something

Examples:

Josh is so cute. Every time he's around, I get butterflies!

I have my job interview in an hour. I'm so nervous, I have butterflies in my stomach!



fish out of water



Meaning: someone who is a little weird; someone who doesn't fit in or feel comfortable somewhere

Examples:

I really feel like a fish out of water at my new job. I don't have anything in common with my colleagues.

At first, she was a fish out of water at her new school. But soon, she made lots of new friends.

antsy

Meaning: restless; wanting to move

Examples:

Can we go yet?! I'm really antsy. I want to go!

Whenever I'm sitting in class, I get really bored and antsy, and I just want to go outside!





**(I CAN'T THINK OF A
PROPER HEADING)**

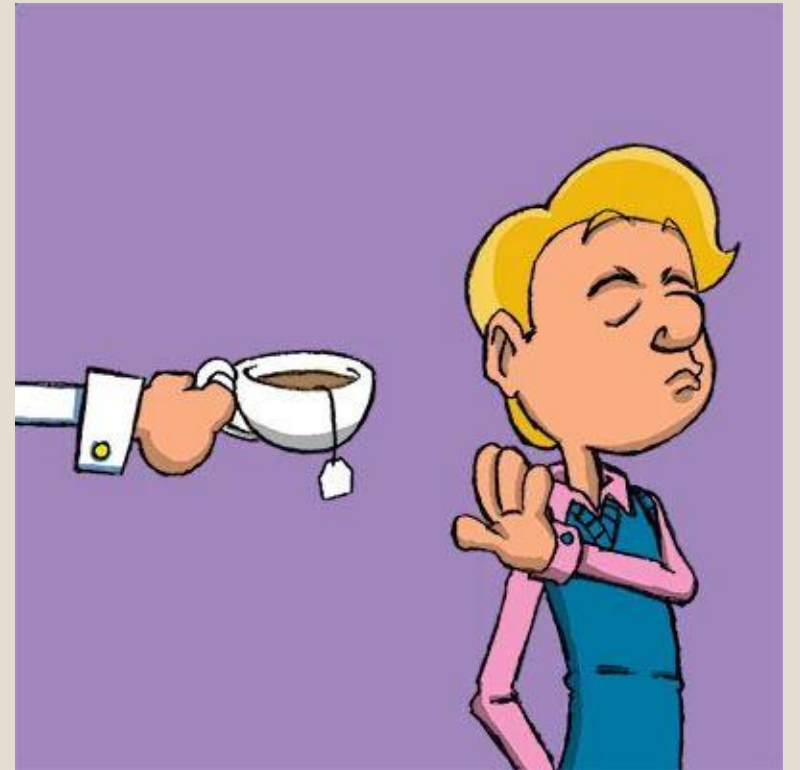
it's not your cup of tea

Meaning: used when you're talking about something you don't like

Examples:

The new Star Wars movie was OK, but it wasn't really my cup of tea.

Michael didn't like that cheese. Dairy products aren't his cup of tea.



knock your socks off



Meaning: amaze or impress

Examples:

The new Star Wars movie was so good! It'll knock your socks off.

This cheese is so delicious, it'll knock your socks off!

piece of cake

Meaning: something that is very easy

Examples:

That test was a piece of cake! I'm sure I got the best grade in the class.

Sure, I can get some milk from the store. Piece of cake!

